

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application as amended is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-14, 21-24, 26-27 were pending and rejected. In this response, no claim has been canceled. Claims 1, 6-8, 13-14, 21, and 26-27 have been amended. No new matter has been added.

Claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-14, 21-24, and 26-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,523,023 of Sonnenberg ("Sonnenberg"). In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-4, 6-11, 13-14, 21-24, and 26-27 as amended include limitations that are not disclosed by Sonnenberg.

Specifically, for example, independent claim 1 includes limitations of generating a set of common search requests for data based how often the search requests have been received by the server previously from the clients. For example, more search requests are received by the server for similar items or product data, such search requests are more popular and are identified as common search requests. As a result, a search result or results for these search requests are stored in the server. Subsequently, when a similar search request is received and such a subsequent search request is recognized belonging to the common search requests. As a result, the previously stored search result or results for the common search requests are retrieved from the server and provided to the client, without having to perform a substantive search for the subsequent search request. The subsequent substantive search is only performed when the subsequent search request is not the one that belongs to the common search request. It is respectfully submitted that the above limitations are absent from Sonnenberg.

Rather, Sonnenberg discloses distributed Internet search agents (ISAs) to perform searches in a distribution manner, where an ISA may specify the time, day, and/or frequency to perform a search, for example, at an off-peak time, in order to avoid network traffic congestion. See, for example, col. 5, lines 24-65 of Sonnenberg.

Sonnenberg is not related to a server receiving search requests and performing searches, and designating certain common search requests received by a server whose search results are stored within the server for subsequent similar search requests without having to repeat the searches. It is respectfully submitted that Sonnenberg and the present application are solving significantly different problems and their approaches are significantly different.

In order to anticipate a claim, each and every limitations of the claim must be taught by the cited reference. It is respectfully submitted that Sonnenberg fails to disclose each and every limitations of independent claim 1 as amended. Therefore, independent claim 1 as amended is not anticipated by Sonnenberg.

Similarly, independent claims 8 and 21 as amended include limitations similar to those recited in claim 1. Thus, for the reasons similar to those discussed above, independent claims 8 and 21 are not anticipated by Sonnenberg.

Given that the rest of the claims depend from one of the above independent claims, at least for the reasons similar to those discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that the rest of the claims are not anticipated by Sonnenberg. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

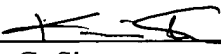
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

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